

Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee

FINAL SUMMARY MINUTES

November 15, 2001

Meeting Time

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Meeting Location

**Metering Building, Second Floor Conference Room
SPU Operations Control Center**

2700 Airport Way South

Seattle, WA 98104

Members Present: Bruce Bachen (SPU), Tom Sibley (NMFS), Steve Foley (WDFW), Dennis Moore (Muckleshoot Tribe), Scott Brewer (KC DNR), Gwill Ging (USFWS), Frank Urabeck (NW Marine Trade Association), Bill Robinson (Trout Unlimited), Sam Wright (WA Trout)

Other Participants: Linda Deboldt (SPU), Bill Wells (SPU), Cyndy Holtz (SPU), Paul Faulds (SPU), Bill McKay (Puget Sound Anglers), Chuck Wischman (Puget Sound Anglers)

I. Call to order

Bruce called the meeting to order at 9:15AM.

II. Recognition and remembrance of Dave Paden

This was the first meeting of the AFC since Dave Paden had passed away. Chuck Wischman, a personal friend of Dave's and fellow member of Puget Sound Anglers, recalled some of Dave's interests and his ability to interact with others. He was dedicated to creating better fishing opportunity in Lake Washington and will be missed.

III. Changes in AFC membership

Bruce introduced Chuck Wischman and Bill McKay from Puget Sound Anglers and explained they are interested in sharing the position on the AFC previously held by Dave Paden. He also noted that Paul Siedel (WDFW) would be taking over for Ron Warren (WDFW).

IV. Approval of agenda

Members unanimously approved the revised agenda.

V. Minutes review and approval for September 20, 2001 meeting

Members unanimously approved the minutes from our last meeting.

VI. Interim mitigation for coho, chinook and steelhead

Bruce mentioned that on October 9, 2001 he sent a letter to the co-managers stating the AFC adopted specific guidelines for future Cedar River HCP Interim Mitigation Proposals. Following this there was a brief discussion concerning options for steelhead supplementation on the Cedar River including capturing broodstock at the locks, a new trap at the locks, and redd capping. The members asked the co-managers to provide a steelhead supplementation proposal for the next AFC meeting in December.

VII. Landsburg fish passage update

Bill Wells provided members with a status report on the Fish Passage Project. Members were informed of a series of meetings between Seattle Public Utilities and King County DDES that involved the PAUE alternative analysis, project mitigation, and the permit review timeline. A promising development was the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would be reviewing the project under the Nationwide Permit system, which could result in a 404 permit by the end of the year. SPU also sent Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) its application for Hydraulic Project Approval and was informed the application would not be reviewed until KC DDES approved the project mitigation plan.

VIII. Cedar River sockeye hatchery program

Bruce handed out page 15 of the Landsburg mitigation agreement and asked for a six-month extension on section b. This section states that in HCP Year 1, the Parties will develop guidelines to govern the design, construction, operation, and monitoring phases of the sockeye fry production program. These guidelines will include procedures for developing and modifying annual production targets. Bruce explained that setting annual production levels was integrated in the work on developing the adaptive management plan and that it would be several months before the draft could be completed and reviewed. The AFC agreed to recommend a 6-month extension to the Parties.

Paul Faulds (SPU) described work that had been done in coordination with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to gather additional information on broodstock collection methods. These efforts received considerable support from Dave Seiler (WDFW) and his staff.

Steve explained that the weir was removed on 11/13/01 this year. He provided members with 2001 Cedar River Sockeye Egg Take Data and noted that with the fish holding in the adult ponds the hatchery should get over 12 million eggs. Cyndy Holtz briefed the committee on the agency and public scoping meetings that mark the beginning of the hatchery EIS process. Cyndy explained the City held two public meetings and one agency meeting to convey information about the hatchery project and provide an opportunity for input (oral and written) in the development of the EIS. Bruce asked if members had any comments on the Cedar River Sockeye Hatchery Program Objectives, a one-page document supplied to the members last week. No one raised any objections to the wording of the objectives.

IX. Cedar River HCP habitat program update

Cyndy Holtz gave the AFC a briefing on the Downstream Habitat Protection and Restoration Program. She provided members with a two-page document that described the program funding, criteria used to prioritize proposed projects, process is used to identify and prioritize projects annually, and the status for 2001-2002 program implementation. Members asked for additional information before commenting on the recommendations.

X. Public comment (scheduled for 11:30)

No comments were made.

XI. Information/ discussion items

Cedar River HCP Oversight Committee meeting report

Bruce described the events of the Oversight Committee meeting and explained the committee would be performing an advisory function to the city.

XII. Plan next agenda for meeting scheduled for December 13, 2001

Sam would like to discuss escapement goals in the Cedar River and how this affects fishing opportunity.

XIII. Adjourn